



**State of New
Hampshire
Department of
Education**

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Messages From the Department of Education

December 2015

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ACCOUNTABILITY, ASSESSMENT, INSTRUCTION, AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

A. SAT

The New Hampshire Department of Education has received approval to replace the 11th grade Smarter Balanced statewide assessment with the College Board's SAT in the spring of 2016. This plan is an important step in the Department's commitment to reduce the amount of time spent on statewide standardized testing for public high school students and ensure that all students are prepared to succeed in college and careers. The SAT will cover English language arts (reading, writing) and mathematics and will be at no cost for every 11th grade student required to take the assessment.

B. SAT Trainings

These series of two-hour professional learning opportunities for principals, curriculum directors, data teams, teachers, school counselors and other key middle and high school administrators provide hands-on training.

*Training Schedule***

Name	North Country Education Service (NCES) 300 Gorham Hill Road Gorham, NH	Southeastern Regional Education Service Center, Inc. (SERESC) 29 Commerce Drive Bedford, NH	Keene High School 43 Arch Street Keene, NH	Department of Education Londergan Hall 101 Pleasant Street Concord, NH
SAT Practice Tools and Educator Resources	December 18th 1:00 – 3:00 pm	December 15th 1:00 – 3:00 pm	January 6th 9:00 – 11:00 am	January 13th 1:00 – 3:00 pm
Using PSAT / NMSQT Data and Tools to Improve Student Learning	February 9th 1:00 – 3:00 pm	February 1st 1:00 – 3:00 pm	January 28th 9:00 – 11:00 am	February 10th 1:00 – 3:00 pm
SAT School Day Debrief	May 24th 1:00 – 3:00 pm	TBD	June 2nd 9 – 11 am	May 25th 1 – 3 pm

**Registration is not needed for the above trainings.

C. SAT Portal

The NH-SAT Portal is located at www.collegeboard.org/new-hampshire. The NH-SAT Portal contains basic SAT testing information such as:

- Why the SAT?
- SAT Basics
- The Redesigned SAT
- Learn About Key Content Changes to the SAT
- Learn More About the SAT's Structure and Timing
- Learn More About the SAT's Score Structure

- Benefits of Taking the SAT
- Taking the SAT in New Hampshire
- Preparing for the SAT
- Sample and Practice SAT Questions
- ...and considerably more information for educators, students and parents

Contact: Donna Dubey, (603) 271-3759, Donna.Dubey@doe.nh.gov or
Scott Mantie, (603) 271-3844, Scott.Mantie@doe.nh.gov

D. Smarter Balanced Assessment Results

The statewide results of the 2014-15 Smarter Balanced Assessment were released on November 12th. These results set a new baseline for how students are performing in the state and are the first to measure New Hampshire's students' progress toward the academic goals identified in the state's College- and Career-Ready Standards for mathematics and English language arts. This assessment will provide a more accurate snapshot of how students are performing on a path to success after high school. For more information go to www.education.nh.gov/instruction/assessment/sbac.

Contact: Scott Mantie, (603) 271-3844, Scott.Mantie@doe.nh.gov

DATA

A. 2015-2016 Fall i4see Activity

- F & R:** Files were due on November 9, 2015, on the i4see workbench. Please be sure these are complete and accurate as they help determine your Title I status and are used in the determination of Adequacy Aid. These files only need to be "Batch Verified."
- BOY Files:** All BOY files should be complete at this time. However, there are several districts that have not certified their files. Once the BOY is certified, please print, sign, and send the report "Public Fall Enrollment Sign Off" located under the Analysis tab, Anomaly and State Reports, BOY screen. This report was due on December 1, 2015.
- Completers, Dropouts and Cohort Reports:** These reports are located below the Fall Enrollment Sign-Off report on the workbench. Please have your guidance department confirm that they are correct. These reports do not need to be sent to the NH DOE.

Contact: Sandy Hyslop, (603) 271-2831, Sandy.Hyslop@doe.nh.gov

B. PerformancePLUS Training Sessions for December and January

The NH DOE Data Coach Support Team has scheduled several training sessions in a variety of formats to meet the needs of PerformancePLUS users. See the schedule below for training at the DOE, webinars, and Q+A webinar sessions.

a. Q+A Webinars for PerformancePLUS Users

Please join us on Wednesday December 16th from 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. for an open hour for questions and answers about PerformancePLUS. This webinar is for you to call in with your questions and receive immediate support from the data coaches.

Please register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/853727168694455041>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about joining the webinar.

b. Using Filters in PerformancePLUS - Webinar

Have you ever been frustrated in PerformancePLUS because you were unable to narrow down your reports to specific students you want to see? Join us as we show you how to use the filters and options that will focus your reporting. We will work through common mistakes, and show you how to use the filters to answer specific questions about specific students. This webinar is being held on Monday, December 14th from 8:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Please register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6508332951459413506>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about joining the webinar.

c. Conducting Education Evaluations – Webinar

The NH DOE has developed a tool for schools to schedule, administer and help ensure effective evaluations of teachers and administrators. The Educator Evaluation System is available free of charge to school districts via the NH Single Sign-On system. The system allows a principal to schedule evaluations of his/her teachers, collect artifacts or indicators of effectiveness throughout the evaluation process (classroom observation or walk-through, peer review, etc.), e-mail documents between educator and evaluator, run reports, etc. Evaluations are accessible only by the authorized district personnel and are not accessible by the state. The DOE SLDS Data Coaches can provide support this winter and spring to help districts configure the tool for your specific evaluation documents. This webinar will be held on January 28th from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Please register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/306679452736699905>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about joining the webinar.

d. Understanding Push SBAC Reports in PerformancePLUS - Webinar

Join us to learn more about the Smarter Balanced reports that have been PUSHED to your PerformancePLUS account. Seven different types of reports were created and PUSHED (sent) to you to help you analyze your Smarter Balanced Assessment results. Join us and we'll help you understand Smarter Balanced reporting, and analyze the information to find areas of strength and challenge in your school or district. This webinar will be held on January 21st from 3:00 p.m.-4:30 pm. Please register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2518523013872414978>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about joining the webinar.

The following Trainings will be held at the Department of Education.

Bring your computer, be sure you can log on to P+ and please check to be sure you have access to your students.

e. P+ 101: Getting to Know PerformancePLUS

Join us to learn how to get started with PerformancePLUS. This is a great workshop for people who are just beginning to use PerformancePLUS or who may feel a little overwhelmed by all the system has to offer. How do you decide where to start? What reports are most helpful? Why would you use various reports? This session will wrap up with a sense of accomplishment as you learn how to log in, navigate, and run your

first reports. This workshop will be held on January 14th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Room 15. Please register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HFS3LRD>.

f. PerformancePLUS Individual Learning Plan

Are you looking for a way to manage all the components of a student's complex educational program? Do you wish that the important qualitative and quantitative information shared on a student resided in one accessible place? The Individual Learning Plan (ILP) in PerformancePLUS is the tool that you need. Learn how schools can use the ILP to develop comprehensive systems of support, intervention and communication to maximize student outcomes. This workshop will be held on January 11th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Room 15. Please register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/H585ZZC>.

g. High School Data Evaluation

Ever wonder about how data in PerformancePLUS can be used effectively for high schools? Do you have an identified group of students at the high school level you're worried about? Are you trying to determine the root causes for successes or struggles? In this session we will provide an opportunity for groups or individuals to identify and gather multiple data sources together to look for commonalities or patterns. We will also use a process tool that may help guide discussions and decisions. This will be a very hands-on, interactive session. This workshop will be held on January 22, 2016 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Room 15. Please register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/P8YSHHM>.

Contact: Irene Koffink, (603) 271-3865, Irene.Koffink@doe.nh.gov or
Carol Angowski, (603) 271-3455, Carol.Angowski@doe.nh.gov

GRANTS and REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

ALL RFPs Can be Found on the Department Website at
www.education.nh.gov/rfp/index.htm

A. Career and Technical Education Incentive Grants for Eligible Secondary Participants

The New Hampshire Department of Education requests proposals from NH career and technical education centers or an approved regional program, eligible to receive Perkins funds. This Request for Proposals solicits program improvement projects that:

1. Relate to increasing and sustaining access to and enrollment in career and technical education programs; or
2. Relate to the increased use of Perkins data-driven decision making in curriculum and instruction; or
3. Develop and integrate standards-based academics with a career-relevant, sequenced curriculum following industry-themed pathways that are aligned to high-skill, high-wage, high-growth jobs in the current regional economy, or in emerging regional economic sectors; or
4. Ensure that career pathway programs are designed and implemented in a manner that leads students to a post-secondary degree or certification in a high-skill, high-wage, and high-growth or emerging field; or

5. Prioritize work-based learning opportunities for students in partnership with regional business and industry, state and local government entities, and nonprofit and community-based organizations; or
6. Are deemed by the Career Development Bureau to be a project that is targeted toward increasing access to career and technical education programs for special populations, including individuals with disabilities; economically disadvantaged backgrounds, including foster children; students preparing for non-traditional careers; single parents, single pregnant students; students with limited English proficiency; and displaced homemakers.

The deadline for submission of proposals is 3:00 p.m. (EST) February 1, 2016.

Contact: Jennifer Kiley, (603) 573-0600, Jennifer.Kiley@doe.mnh.gov

B. Vocational Rehabilitation Services

New Hampshire Vocational Rehabilitation (NHVR) is currently seeking proposals from all interested parties such as community rehabilitation programs, school districts, employers, community-based organizations, post-secondary institutions, faith-based organizations, single agency, or agency/organization consortiums, non-profits and others, who have experience working with students with disabilities who are transitioning to the workforce or post-secondary education. At the heart of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) is the encouragement of creative and collaborative efforts to affect the changes necessary that will successfully implement WIOA. A specific plan for collaboration with employers will be a significant component of successful responses to this RFP. Applications are due on or before 4:00 p.m. on Monday, January 4, 2016.

Contact: Kevin Stevenson, (603) 271-5024, Kevin.Stevenson@doe.nh.gov

HEARINGS

Ed 506.07 and Ed 614.15 (Special Education Administrator)

There will be a public hearing on January 7, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. in the State Board Room at the NH Department of Education, 101 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301. Deadline for written comment is January 22, 2016.

INNOVATIONS/INITIATIVES

A. Girls Technology Day 2016

Preregistration is now available for Girls Technology Day 2016. These events provide New Hampshire's young women, in grades 9 & 10, with opportunities to participate in hands on learning that explores STEM career fields. This year there are four locations and dates to choose from:

- Tuesday, March 15 @ NHTI in Concord
- Wednesday, March 16 @ Great Bay Community College in Portsmouth
- Thursday, March 17 @ UNH Durham
- Friday, March 18 @ Manchester Community College in Manchester

To preregister students for an event, please go to www.nhgirlstechnologyday.com.

Preregistering allows you to state your preference for a location and date and tells us how

many students you will be bringing. We will send information at a later date to register for individual workshops. New this year, students at the first three events can participate in a “Makers Make the World a Better Place” contest. More information can be found on the Web site, under the students tab.

Contact: Jennifer Kiley, (603) 573-0600, Jennifer.Kiley@doe.nh.gov or
Courtney Ritchings, (603) 573-0166, Courtney.Ritchings@doe.nh.gov

B. What’s So Cool About Manufacturing? Video Contest

In order to engage New Hampshire students and to encourage them to learn about exciting and interesting career opportunities in advanced manufacturing, Governor Hassan and Department of Resources and Economic Development Commissioner Jeffrey Rose are launching the second annual What’s So Cool About Manufacturing? video contest. Through partnering participating schools and local manufacturers to produce a video focused on career opportunities in manufacturing, the What’s So Cool About Manufacturing? video contest is designed to introduce middle school students to careers of the future in advanced manufacturing and what they can do to prepare for them. Students and advisors can work with local manufacturers on their video starting now through the February 2 project deadline. Teachers interested in participating can get more information on partnering with a local manufacturer, as well as video contest rules, at www.nheconomy.com/videocontest or by contacting Christopher Way, Deputy Director, Division of Economic Development at Christopher.Way@dred.state.nh.us or (603) 271-2341.

NH HIGH SCHOOL REDESIGN

A. New England Secondary School Consortium Data Project Annual Report

Since 2009, the five state education agencies participating in the New England Secondary School Consortium (Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont) have been collecting, calculating, and reporting high school graduation rates, high school dropout rates, and postsecondary enrollment, persistence, and completion rates using a common set of procedures and methodologies developed by a regional team of data specialists from each of the five state agencies. The Consortium recently released the annual report on public-school performance for the 2013–2014 school year. To view the report or for more information about the project go to www.education.nh.gov/data/nessc-reports.htm.

Contact: Doug Earick, (603) 271-1707, Douglas.Earick@doe.nh.gov

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ADVISORY

Advisories Can be Found on the Department Website at
www.education.nh.gov/standards/tech_advisories.htm

A. High School Statewide Assessment

On November 19th the NH DOE issued a technical assistance advisory regarding the use of the College Board’s SAT for the high school statewide assessment requirement.

B. Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

On December 1st the NH DOE issued a technical assistance advisory pertaining to the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A. NHASCD Conference Series Re-imagining Education: Every Learner, Every Day

On January 8, 2016, NHASCD welcomes two outstanding presenters in the world of literacy. In the morning Dr. Lucy Calkins will present on "High Leverage Methods for Lifting the Level of Students' Reading" (for Grades 3 - 8). Lucy Calkins will present until 12:30. Then after lunch, we welcome award-winning author/illustrator Lita Judge who will speak on "Engaging Students to Become Creative Readers and Writers with Fiction and Non-Fiction Texts." This conference is taking place at the Grappone Conference Center in Concord. To register or for more information go to <http://www.cvent.com/events/jan-8th-2016-nhascd-conf-with-presenters-lucy-calkins-lita-judge/invitation-6c0cb0afb95d452f9f24404be9aaf5ec.aspx>.

B. Self Paced Tutorials Available Online From OPEN NH

In an effort to assist schools in providing training for ALL school related employees, volunteers, substitute teachers and others, NH e-Learning for Educators Project offers short online tutorial training on a variety of subjects. Each tutorial will earn professional development hours upon successful completion that can be used for re-certification and licensing continuing education units.

- **Bullying Awareness and Prevention**, a 3-hour self-paced tutorial, \$10.00
- **The NH 3 Tiered Bullying Prevention and Intervention Model**, a 5-hour self-paced tutorial, \$25.00
- **Substitute Teaching: Tools and Tips for Success**, a 5-hour self-paced tutorial, \$25.00
- **Ten Technology Skills for Learning and Teaching**, a 15-hour self-paced tutorial, \$75.00
- **Developing Successful Online Teaching and Learning Practices**, a 10-hour self-paced tutorial, \$50.00

Other tutorials are currently in development. For more information about the tutorials and online registration, visit <http://nheon.org/opennh/tutorials/index.html>.

Contact: Stan Freeda, (603) 271-5132, Stanley.Freed@doe.nh.gov

C. OPEN NH Winter 2016 Session Online Professional Development Courses

Registrations are now being accepted for the OPEN NH Winter 2016 Session courses. The seven-week, 35 hour online professional development courses begin on February 3rd and continue through March 22nd. The registration fee for OPEN NH professional development courses is \$130, with early bird fee of \$120 in effect through January 19, 2016. The list of OPEN NH professional development courses offered during the upcoming OPEN NH Sessions can be found at www.opennh.org, select Courses, Current Course Schedule. OPEN NH offers a variety of group discount deals for SAUs, districts, or schools. Graduate credits are available through Plymouth State University at additional per credit cost \$30 registration fee. Online registration is only available for individuals. District Cohorts at reduced fees are also offered. Cohorts must use a single group registration form via e-mail to the OPEN NH Project Coordinator. Details for both procedures are available on the website

at www.opennh.org. OPEN NH is part of the NH e-Learning for Educators Project, a program of the New Hampshire Department of Education.

Contact: Stan Freeda, (603) 271-5132, or Stanley.Freeda@doe.nh.gov

DEPARTMENT STAFF UPDATES

Dr. Scott Mantie was appointed as the Director of the Division of Program Support at the Governor and Council meeting on December 2, 2015. Dr. Mantie joined the NH DOE as the Administrator for the Bureau of Accountability and Assessment in March of 2013. He can be reached at (603) 271-3844 or Scott.Mantie@doe.nh.gov.

OTHER

Green Ribbon School

The U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools (ED-GRS) recognition award honors schools that are exemplary in reducing environmental impact and costs; improving the health and wellness of students and staff; and providing effective environmental and sustainability education, which incorporates STEM, civic skills and green career pathways. For more information go to www.education.nh.gov/program/school_approval/g_ribbon_schools.htm. Deadline for applications is January 8, 2016.

Contact: Marjorie Schoonmaker, (603) 271-3620, Marjorie.Schoonmaker@doe.nh.gov

Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST)

The PAEMST program is pleased to announce that the 2015-2016 application period for K-6 grade mathematics and science (including computer science) teachers is now open. Please consider nominating a talented teacher or applying yourself. PAEMST is the highest honor the United States government bestows for K–12 mathematics and science teaching, honoring up to 108 teachers each year. Presidential awardees receive a certificate signed by the President, a trip for two to Washington, D.C., to attend a series of recognition events, and a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The nomination deadline is April 1, 2016 and the application deadline is May 1, 2016. For more information or to nominate a teacher go to www.education.nh.gov/recognition/math_science.htm.

Contact: Donna Dubey, (603) 271-3759, Donna.Dubey@doe.nh.gov (mathematics)
Eric Feldborg, (603) 271-2079, Eric.Feldborg@doe.nh.gov (science)

NH School Nurse of the Year

Each year the New Hampshire School Nurses Association (NHSNA) gives school districts throughout the state the opportunity to nominate their school nurse. This award recognizes an outstanding school nurse for her contributions to the school and community. To be eligible for this award your school nurse must meet the following criteria:

- is a registered professional nurse
- has been practicing school nursing for a minimum of three (3) years
- is a member of the New Hampshire School Nurse Association this year and the prior year without lapse of membership
- shows evidence of excellence in school nursing practice.

For more information and nomination forms can be accessed at www.nhschoolnurses.org or by contacting Cathy Forrest at cforrest@conval.edu. Deadline for nominations is February 1, 2016.

LifeChanger of the Year

LifeChanger of the Year is an annual program that recognizes and rewards K-12 educators and school employees from around the country. A LifeChanger could be a math teacher who stays after school to tutor struggling students, a guidance counselor who encourages every student to reach their full potential, or a custodian who offers encouraging words. This program aims to honor those who are making a significant difference in the lives of students by exemplifying excellence, positive influence and leadership. Nominating them for LifeChanger of the Year is a great way to recognize them, and give them the chance to win \$10,000. Nominations will be accepted until January 15, 2016. To nominate someone or for more information go to <http://lifechangeroftheyearnominees.com>.

2016 NH High School Short Film Festival

The New Hampshire Film and Television Office, an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources, will once again present the New Hampshire High School Short Film Festival, which will take place in May 21, 2016 at Red River Theatres in Concord. Students from NH public and private high schools are encouraged to start planning and producing their projects, which do not have to be created as part of a class assignment. The submission period opens March 1, 2016. More details are available at www.nhstudentfilm.com. Media arts faculty interested in receiving updates about the Festival via e-mail should contact film@nh.gov.

Fire and Life Safety Poster Contest

The Department of Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal and the New Hampshire Fire Prevention Society, believe that Fire Prevention and Life Safety should be a part of daily life throughout the year in every New Hampshire household. Third grade students are challenged to design a poster representing an important fire prevention & life safety message. This annual poster contest is open to all third grade students in the State of New Hampshire. Deadline for submissions is no later than February 26, 2016. For more information go to www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/firesafety/special-operations/pub_ed/index.htm.

Create a Greeting Card Scholarship

This contest is sponsored by Prudent Publishing Company, Inc./The Gallery Collection. They are offering one \$10,000 scholarship to a high school, college or university student enrolled at any time during the latter half of 2015 in an academic program designed to conclude with the awarding of a diploma or a degree. For more information or to submit photo, artwork or computer graphic for the front of a greeting card go to www.gallerycollection.com/greeting-cards-scholarship.htm. Deadline for submissions is February 25, 2016.